

**MINUTES**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**

**Date**  
**Thursday, September 8, 2011**

**Time**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**Location**  
**Rutledge Conference Center**  
**1429 Senate Street**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

*Gerrita Postlewait, Chair*  
*Dennis Thompson, Chair-elect*  
*Mick Zais, PhD*  
*State Superintendent of Education*  
*Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board*

*SBE Mission: The State Board of Education's mission is to provide a leadership role in helping South Carolina set policy and direction to transform teaching and learning so that students are prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills, including innovation, to compete globally and live a productive life.*

**I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The State Board of Education meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Postlewait called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following State Board of Education (SBE) members were in attendance: Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Chair-elect, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Tim Moore, Esq., Second Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; David Blackmon, PhD, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Neil Willis, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, EdD, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Barry Bolen, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; John Rampey, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brennan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies was Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Mick Zais, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Scott English, Chief Operating Officer, Administration; Charmeka Bosket, Deputy Superintendent, Policy and Research, Office of Policy and Research; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of School Effectiveness; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING ON AUGUST 18, 2011**

Chair Postlewait asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes for the SBE meeting on August 18, 2011, as presented. Rose Sheheen commented that, in reviewing the August minutes for both the PL Committee and the SBE, she could not find the Western Piedmont Consortium discussion concerning diplomas nor the Chair's summary of the direction she hoped the SCDE would take in all suggested innovations. Chair Postlewait stated that this information was presented in both the PL Committee and the SBE meetings and asked that both sets of minutes be checked for this information. She added that if the information is not on either recording, that she will reconstruct that portion of the minutes. Chair Postlewait then declared the August 18, 2011, minutes approved.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

Chair Postlewait asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for September 8, 2011. Rose Sheheen moved to approve the agenda. Bonnie Disney seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA**

Chair Postlewait welcomed all visitors. There were no news media present.

**V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT/RECOGNITIONS**

**Superintendent's Report:**

State Superintendent of Education Zais reported that, over the past month, he has participated in several meetings, conferences, and events. He participated with Governor Haley in the state employee United Way Campaign Kickoff; delivered the keynote address to the South Carolina Association of Countywide Elected Officials, and discussed South Carolina's vision for education in South Carolina.

Dr. Zais visited the Florence County Career Center and met with students, faculty, and leaders. He spoke to the Florence Rotary Club and, while there, he met with the press and did a television interview.

School visits included meeting with teachers, principals, and education leaders at the Discovery School in Lancaster County; Nation Ford High School in Fort Mill School

District Four in York County; The Children's School at Sylvia Circle in Rock Hill School District Three in York County; and York Preparatory Academy in the South Carolina Public Charter School District in Rock Hill.

Dr. Zais visited Winthrop University and discussed South Carolina's vision for education with the faculty in the school's Department of Education. He also met with the Dean of the College of Education, her faculty leaders, and key staff to talk about preparation of teachers and principals in their graduate and undergraduate programs. He met with the president of ETV-South Carolina to discuss the relationship between their educational arm and our schools.

Also, Dr. Zais did an interview with WIS television and with WSPA television in Spartanburg. He filmed two segments on education in South Carolina for the Chamber of Commerce (SCCC) and met with a group of South Carolina speech language pathologists and listened to their views on certification, levels of certification, and procedures for obtaining certification. Dr. Zais met with the president of the South Carolina Automobile Dealers Association to discuss partnering with our career centers.

Dr. Zais received an update and worked on preparing our staff for possible hurricanes. He stated that our school districts have a significant role in evacuation out of the Lowcountry and that districts are prepared in case we have to execute emergency preparedness plans. Dr. Zais also met with the President-elect of the SCCC regarding the Education and Economic Development Act to try and link more closely what is going on in the classroom with what the requirements are in the world of work.

Dr. Zais met with the commander of the South Carolina United States Army Recruiting Command. He also met with South Carolina's Commissioner of Agriculture concerning their support of our food service programs and federal food service programs.

Legislatively, Dr. Zais met with one of our legislators regarding Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics programs.

Regarding the budget, Dr. Zais stated that Governor Haley requested all state agencies submit their budget proposals for the coming fiscal year by September 30, 2011. Dr. Zais reported that the SCDE submitted its Fines and Fees Report as required by statute, and it is posted online. In the past fiscal year, we collected \$11.2 million in fines and fees. He added that 72 percent was for use of school buses and that money goes back to support the state fleet. Most of the remaining revenue consists of registration fees that offset the cost of the professional development programs that we operate and registration fees for people taking the GED.

After Dr. Zais's report, he recognized the 2011 Senior Army Instructor of the Year by the U.S. Army Cadet Command, Lt. Col. (retired) Justin F. Blum. He also recognized Dr. David Stout (SCDE) who was honored with the 2011 Distinguished Service Award from the GED Testing Service.

Other recognitions by Dr. Zais included the 2011–12 South Carolina Teacher of the Year, Patti Tate. She is an English teacher at Northwestern High School in the Rock Hill School District and is represented by State Board member John Rampey.

Dr. Zais also recognized the 2011–12 South Carolina Honor Roll Teachers. They are as follows:

- Beth Hinson, biology teacher at Dillon High School in Dillon District Four. She is represented by State Board member David Blackmon.
- Craig Andrysczyk, fifth-grade mathematics and science teacher at Oak Pointe Elementary School in Lexington/Richland District Five. He is represented by State Board member Barry Bolen.
- Jean Allman, eighth-grade mathematics teacher at Johnakin Middle School in Marion District One. She is represented by State Board member Bishop Michael Blue.
- Jeffrey Eargle, U.S. History teacher at Mid-Carolina High School in Newberry County School District. He is represented by State Board member Dru James.

<b>VI. PUBLIC COMMENT</b>
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There was no one present for Public Comment.

<b>VII. SECOND READING</b>
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**FOR APPROVAL**

**SB-01**

**Approval of the Standards for Evaluation and Eligibility Determination (SEED) (Second Reading)**—Marlene Metts, Director, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Accountability

Marlene Metts reported on the Standards for Evaluation and Eligibility Determination (SEED) document, which accompanies the eligibility criteria that the Board approved last month on second reading. The SEED document contains standards expected when monitoring for compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The primary purpose of the document is to expand on the eligibility criteria. The IDEA

requires a review of existing evaluation information prior to determining what additional measures are necessary to determine if a child is eligible for special education. The document focuses on where to find that information and evidence and who must be involved in that process. It is also a training document for school districts. Because it is a standards document instead of a regulation, it can be reviewed and updated more frequently.

John Rampey moved that the Board approve the Standards for Evaluation and Eligibility Determination (SEED) on second reading. Bonnie Disney seconded. The motion passed.

<b>VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS</b>
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**EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS**

**Committee Report**—David Longshore, Chair

**FOR INFORMATION**

- 01. State Board of Education TEACH FOR AMERICA (TFA) Program Update**—Allison Jacques, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Recruitment, and Preparation, Division of School Effectiveness

David Longshore reported on the State Board of Education TEACH FOR AMERICA (TFA) Program Update, and handed out a summary of where the teachers are. Phillip Bowers asked if we want to increase the numbers of teachers in the TFA Program. Mark Bounds said there will be an additional 30 members each year, per previous Board approval, with flexibility for additional numbers. Mr. Bounds commented that the TFA Program is doing very well.

- 02. State Board of Education Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) Update**—Allison Jacques, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Recruitment, and Preparation, Division of School Effectiveness

David Longshore gave a brief overview on the State Board of Education Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) Update.

**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE**

**Committee Report**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-300 (R 43-300), Accreditation Criteria (First Reading)**—Steve Abbott, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

Chair Postlewait reported on the proposed amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-300 (R 43-300), Accreditation Criteria, for first reading. She said there are some significant changes to the way Dr. Zais and his staff suggest the Board thinks about the process the SCDE uses concerning the accreditation of schools regarding more substantive issues such as student achievement and teacher certification than has been the case in the past.

Dr. Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve the proposed amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-300 (R 43-300), Accreditation Criteria, on first reading. She called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

03. **SBE Policy Regarding Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, State Board of Education

Dr. Postlewait said there is a need to make revisions to the way the SBE policy regarding fiscal responsibility and accountability is currently stated. She suggested there be a meeting to work on revising language that will be acceptable to both the SBE and the SCDE in order to accomplish the purposes that the policy was set out to cover. The meeting would include the SBE Chair or their designee and the SCDE designee.

Dr. Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve the plan to revise the SBE Policy Regarding Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability, first reading. She called for the vote and the motion passed.

05. **Legal Counsel for State Board of Education**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, State Board of Education

Chair Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve her request to write a letter to the Attorney General requesting his assistance in obtaining legal counsel to advise the Board. The issues of importance in the letter deal with the rationale of the request and clarification about whether or not the Board is entitled to such service. If

the answer is yes, the Board request's that the Attorney General appoint counsel to work with the Board. Also in the letter would be mention of a local attorney who is willing to serve, at least temporarily, to work out some of the issues that would be involved.

Phillip Bowers motioned to amend the main motion by striking reference to the local attorney and leaving it up to the Attorney General to decide how he wants to handle this request. The motion was seconded.

Chair Postlewait called for the vote on the amendment to the original motion. The motion did not carry.

Chair Postlewait called for the vote on the main motion that the Board approve the request to write a letter to the Attorney General requesting his assistance in obtaining legal counsel to advise the Board. The motion carried.

### **FOR INFORMATION**

06. **Volunteer Awards Nominating Committee**—Charmeka Bosket, Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Research, Office of Policy and Research

Chair Postlewait stated that, due to lack of time, this item was not presented in Committee and asked Charmeka Bosket to present to the full Board.

Ms. Bosket followed up on the update she provided the Board last month. For clarification, she stated she wants to be sure the Board is clear on the new committee members (which were not discussed last month). Ms. Bosket said the new committee members were based on recommendations from the individual Board members' suggestions, and she gave the Board members an updated list of the Volunteer Awards Nominating Committee.

## **SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

### **Committee Report**—Dru James, Chair

Dru James reported that all SLA items were placed on the consent agenda and said all regulations are on the Web site.

Larry Kobrovsky asked about the nature of the changes to Regulation 43-220. Rick Blanchard stated that revisions were made and organized for easier reading. Mr. Blanchard gave an overview of changes to the regulation that are intended to remove references to the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Tests (PACT) assessment; alphabetize the definitions at the beginning of the regulation; make it possible for students who have met the qualifications for gifted and talented in another state to be accepted into the gifted and talented program in South Carolina without further testing; and increase the number of graduate course hours required

for teachers of gifted and talented students and put in place an intermediate endorsement of twelve graduate hours.

On the accountability end, the district gifted and talented plans were moved from three years to five years to be in line with strategic plans, and in the artistic domain, reworded “drama” to “theater.” Mr. Blanchard added that the evaluation placement team members mentioned community members could be involved and clarified that an advocate could be appointed by the parent.

Rose Sheheen commented that she had served on the evaluation placement committee and the committee wanted to be sure it was known that the gifted and talented program recognized more than academic achievement only.

#### **FOR INFORMATION**

**04. Position Paper on Common Core State Standards Initiative—Dru James, Chair, SLA Committee**

Dru James reviewed what the Board discussed last month concerning their support of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and their input on the implementation of the standards and assessment. Mrs. James suggested adding a dialogue between a representative of the Instructional Leaders Roundtable and the Board to a future Board agenda. She said the position paper will be discussed today, and next month and/or November they will give us the white paper on their findings and with more information regarding what the assessment consortia are offering, cost, etc.

Dr. Mildred Rowland, President of the Instructional Leaders Roundtable, presented their position paper on the CCSS Initiative. The paper calls for the SCDE to proceed with professional development activities and implementation of the CCSS initiative. The paper also urged the SCDE to abandon the idea of developing a “home-grown” assessment in favor of committing to either the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) or SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortia (SBAC).

Dr. Rowland passed out copies of the position paper to the Board. She communicated reasons and rationale of their support of the CCSS and consortia participation and added that this information will be posted online.

Phillip Bowers asked about the CCSS for science. Mr. Bowers also asked if the United States Department of Education (USED) is paying for the assessment. Dr. Rowland responded that the USED provided a grant to pay for the assessment and set guidelines, but they do not develop the assessment.



Dr. Rowland stated that based on the guidelines the expectations are that if you are a governing state, you have more input than a member state. She said she recalled Dr. Zais saying that whatever was done should allow for performance-based pay.

Mr. Bowers said he did not recall hearing that our CCSS lacked academic rigor. Dr. Rowland stated that a few years ago they were looking at proficiency standards. The Northwest Evaluation Association proficiency study indicated that with PACT we were in the top 75 percent, and when PASS was implemented, we dropped to the bottom of the top 25 percent. Our standards did not change, but our expectation for meeting the standards changed. Dr. Zais commented that on the campaign trail he asserted when we went from PACT to Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) we had dumbed down our standards.

Larry Kobrovsky asked if Dr. Rowland's position is that we are incapable of developing standards. She said South Carolina does not have the level of expertise or resources to develop and write items for the assessments. Dr. Rowland added there is a difference between complexity and rigor.

Mr. Kobrovsky also asked if we are setting ourselves up for another shift when each administration changes. Dr. Rowland said they do not go by the administration, but that curriculum and instruction is revised every five years or so anyway.

**05. Update on CCSS in South Carolina—Charmeka Bosket, Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Research, Office of Policy and Research**

Charmeka Bosket reported that we have been actively engaged in rolling out the implementation of CCSS per the timeline provided to the Board last month and that this information is available on the SCDE Web site. She also said the SCDE has met with several groups to continue to update people on what we are doing.

Ms. Bosket updated the Board on the implementation of the CCSS. The SCDE is rolling out the professional development online component to be used by instructional leaders to guide instruction as CCSS replaces South Carolina standards. Next week, we will go live with the district implementation teams. Videos and modules will be provided to the leaders of the district instructional teams. We will provide technical assistance throughout the 2011–12 and 2012–13 school years for professional development. The increase in cognitive rigor associated with the CCSS will require that we make sure our teachers in every district are ready for the transition that the Board has committed the State to making, and the SCDE is committed to helping our districts as much as they need assistance. The SCDE is also working with the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) to help teachers increase the cognitive

rigor of their instruction. We are also in close contact with the Council of Chief State School Officers.

For assessment, there will be a bridge year in school year 2013–14 that will be based on standards common to both South Carolina standards and Common Core standards. In school year 2014–15, CCSS will be fully implemented and South Carolina’s assessment will be based only on the CCSS.

This month, a study group will begin meetings in which they will weigh the pros and cons of the PAARC and SBAC and developing home-grown assessments.

The SCDE is continuing a financial analysis. One reason the Board has not heard specifics from the SCDE on the cost savings or the additional cost tied to the CCSS is because the assessment consortia are operating on a timeline that requires they have tests ready for full implementation by Spring 2015. We want to provide the Board with good information once, so we are looking at the consortia developments and at possibilities as a state.

David Blackmon suggested that it may be helpful for someone to do an estimate on testing expenses and compare that to what is anticipated for future assessments. He commented that our assessment system has not provided good instructional feedback to teachers.

Ms. Bosket said we want to make sure that the financial analysis is a true apples-to-apples comparison. We are looking at the total cost of the status quo and using that to project what we would need to do to move towards CCSS. She added that neither the SBE, the SCDE, nor the Governor have made a decision on the assessment component; it is still being studied.

Chair Postlewait asked Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary, to check to be sure all three action items coming out of the PL Committee had been addressed by the Board. Ms. Clark reviewed those items with the Board, and it was determined that all action items were noted.

<b>IX. CONSENT AGENDA</b>
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The following items were approved in committee and placed on the Consent Agenda:

**Policy and Legislative (PL)**

02. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-262.4 (R 43-262.4), End-of-Course Tests (First Reading)**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability

**04. Appointment of Subcommittee to Review State Board of Education Budget—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, State Board of Education**

Chair Postlewait informed the Board that, after the PL Committee meeting, John Rampey offered to serve on the subcommittee to review the State Board of Education budget. He will be serving along with Dennis Thompson, Chair of the Subcommittee; Barry Bolen; Rose Sheheen; and Mike Brennan.

**Standards, Learning and Accountability (SLA)**

**01. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-243 (R 43-243), Special Education, Education of Students with Disabilities (First Reading)—Marlene Metts, Director, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Accountability**

**02. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-220 (R 43-220), Gifted and Talented (First Reading)—Rick Blanchard, Education Associate, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability**

**03. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 43-237.1 (R 43-237.1), Adult Education Program (First Reading)—David Stout, Director, Office of Adult Education, Division of Accountability**

Rose Sheheen moved that the SBE approve the consent agenda. David Blackmon seconded. The motion carried.

<b>X. LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND REQUESTS REGARDING REGULATIONS</b>
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Charmeka Bosket, Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Research, Office of Policy and Research

Charmeka Bosket reported that Rose Sheheen has agreed to serve on the South Carolina Reading Achievement Systemic Initiative Panel that the General Assembly created at the end of the legislative session by proviso in the Appropriations Act. Ms. Bosket added that we want to be sure the Chair's appointee has been identified and that we are moving forward.

<b>XI. OTHER BUSINESS</b>
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Chair Postlewait informed the Board that Josie Gaston was absent today due to a death in her family. She also thanked Dru James for providing refreshments for today's Board meeting.

Chair Postlewait reminded the Board that the Chair-elect Nominating Committee will be established in next month's Board meeting, and the vote on the Chair-elect will occur in November 2011. She asked that Board members interested in serving on the Committee let her know and stated that she will select members of the committee to ensure diversity will be fairly represented.

Chair Postlewait gave an update on the follow-through from the committee established at the last Board meeting to meet with Dr. Zais to discuss improving the operating climate for the SBE and SCDE staff. The committee met yesterday and left with the understanding that a significant amount of time will be set aside for the October SBE meeting to have Board development around the issue of the standards that are in place in South Carolina for mathematics, language arts, and all issues involved in aligning assessments with the CCSS so that we are not assessing students prior to the time they have had ample opportunity to learn. She added that there was discussion of protocols that should be observed prior to, during, and after SBE meetings. The protocols will be put into place so that the Board can be the most effective they can be, and so that the SCDE will know exactly where the Board stands on matters that pertain to their roles and responsibilities.

Dr. Zais stated that he and Chair Postlewait have had extensive discussions regarding where we need to go concerning the future of education, particularly in South Carolina. He said they have talked about transforming education and that he has prepared a PowerPoint presentation that will show what transformed education looks like and how it contrasts with traditional forms of education in which we are all very familiar.

<b>XII. ADJOURNMENT</b>
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There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:55 p.m.